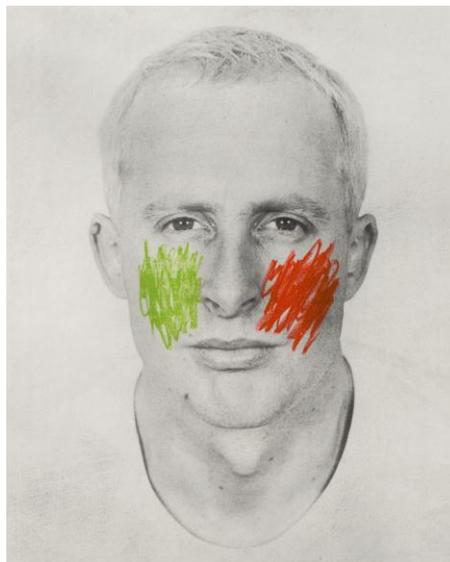


AUCKLAND ART GALLERY TOI O TĀMAKI

Media release 13 June 2014

Gallery announces captivating upcoming programme



Billy Apple, *Motion Picture Meets the Apple* (detail) 1963, Chartwell Collection, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, purchased 2012

Today, Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki Director Rhana Devenport announced highlights of the Gallery's exhibition programme for the next year, outlining a series of quality events featuring the best of art from around Aotearoa New Zealand and the world.

Included in the extensive programme, in partnership with the Auckland Arts Festival, is the largest-ever retrospective of celebrated Auckland artist, **Billy Apple**. Titled *The artist has to live like everybody else*, 14 March – 21 June 2015, the retrospective will open during the Auckland Arts Festival (4 – 22 March) and will mark the first substantial survey of Apple's work to be seen in New Zealand and the world.

Curated by Christina Barton, the exhibition profiles Apple's prolific career spanning more than 50 years. An active player in key art movements from the 1960s to the present, Apple is a key contemporary artist who has made significant contributions to the histories of Pop art, light art, Conceptual art, performance and installation art.

Other featured exhibitions at Auckland Art Gallery in 2015 include:

- The first public gallery exhibition of established Auckland artist Robert Ellis' work, *Robert Ellis: A Place to Stand | Turangawaewae* (9 August 2014 – 15 March 2015); Well known for producing ambitious large-scale paintings, Ellis has addressed many cultural issues through his artworks. Subjects range over tensions between transport and urbanism, the contrast of ecology with spirituality, and the on-going nature of Māori/Pākehā relations.

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- The recently announced international exhibition ***Light Show*** from Hayward Gallery, London (11 October 2014 – 8 February 2015). An immersive multi-sensory experience, *Light Show* brings together some of the most visually stimulating artworks created using different forms of light in recent years, with rare works not seen for decades and some re-created specially for the exhibition.
- ***Zeitgeist: Art in an Age of Turmoil*** (15 November 2014 – 10 May 2015). Coinciding with the centenary of the start of the First World War, this exhibition of avant-garde prints from the Collection explores early 20th-century German art that reflects the changing social and political context of the period 1900 – 1923.
- Lisa Reihana's over 25 metre-long panoramic video ***in Pursuit of Venus***, 2012 – 2014 (25 April – 30 August 2015). A long-awaited and ambitious new project by one of New Zealand's most admired artists, this immersive digital video and sound installation reappraises a widely distributed European representation of the Pacific from the early 19th Century: Joseph Dufour's 1804 scenic wallpaper, *Les Sauvages de la Mer Pacifique*. This multi-screen projection is vast in its complexity and scale.
- An exhibition of new acquisitions from the Chartwell Collection. Renowned for its collection of more than 1,400 works of New Zealand and Australian contemporary art, the Chartwell Collection now includes international contemporary art, a new dimension presented for the first time in this exhibition.

'The Gallery's newly defined purpose is to exist as a creative catalyst for art and ideas, offering transformational experiences that strengthen and enrich our communities,' says Auckland Art Gallery Director Rhana Devenport. 'These exhibitions offer a vibrant diversity of encounter for our audiences, and vary in scale and scope. Some are drawn from the Gallery's remarkable Collection, others are curated especially for Auckland, while others are premiering important new work by New Zealand artists.'

'Supporting these experiences are innovative and creative opportunities through our community and visitor programmes to enjoy, learn and inspire. Ultimately, we are discovering and connecting to one another locally and internationally, over time and cultures.'

Detailed information on each upcoming exhibition will be announced later in the year and will be found on the Gallery website.

www.aucklandartgallery.com

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IMAGE credit: Billy Apple, *Motion Picture Meets the Apple* 1963. Courtesy of the Chartwell Collection (detail)

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